

Pending Claims

✓
Claim 50. (Previously Amended): A method for inducing *ex vivo* proliferation of a population of T cells, comprising:

contacting a population of T cells *ex vivo* with a solid phase surface having covalently attached thereto:

(a) a first agent which provides a primary activation signal in the T cells, thereby activating the T cells and

(b) a second agent which stimulates an accessory molecule on the surface of the T cells, thereby stimulating the activated T cells, wherein the first agent and second agent are covalently attached to the same solid phase surface,

the first and second agents thereby inducing the population of T cells to proliferate.

Claim 51. (Previously Added): The method of claim 50, wherein the first agent stimulates a TCR/CD3 complex-associated signal in the T cells.

Claim 52. (Previously Added): The method of claim 50, wherein the first agent is an anti-CD3 antibody.

Claim 53. (Previously Added): The method of claim 52, wherein the anti-CD3 antibody is an anti-human CD3 monoclonal antibody.

Claim 54. (Previously Added): The method of claim 50, wherein the accessory molecule on the T cell is CD28.

Claim 55. (Previously Added): The method of claim 54, wherein the second agent is an anti-CD28 antibody.

Claim 56. (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 57. (Previously Added): The method of claim 50, further comprising:

monitoring proliferation of the T cells; and

reactivating and re-stimulating the T cells with the first and second agents when the rate of T cell proliferation has decreased to induce further proliferation of the T cells.

Claim 58. (Previously Added): The method of claim 57, wherein the step of ~~monitoring proliferation of the T cells~~ is by examining cells size or determining the level of expression of a cell surface molecule, and the step of reactivating and restimulating is initiated when T cell size has decreased or when the level of the cell surface molecule has decreased.

Claim 59. (Previously Cancelled)